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A STUDY OF THE SERVICES WHICH CAN BE EXCHANGED BETWEEN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND THE STATE TEACHERS COLLEGES IN NEW YORK STATE

- Howard D. Austin, State Teachers College
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The Problem

For some time, colleges and universities have offered various forms of services to the public schools. Neither the concept of an exchange of services between the teachers colleges and the public schools nor the possibilities which an exchange might present, have been sufficiently explored. The solving of many educational problems might be enhanced through joint study by teachers colleges and public schools.

It is the purpose of this study to identify the services which can be exchanged between the public schools and the teachers colleges within their service area. To do this it was necessary to investigate the following services:

1. Services which the teachers colleges have been offering to the public schools.
2. Services which the teachers colleges have not been offering but should offer to the public schools.
3. Services which the public schools have been offering to the teachers colleges.
4. Services which the public schools have not been offering but should offer to the teachers colleges.
5. Services which may include cooperative planning in an effort to improve communication.

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Procedure

The questionnaire was developed and refined through personal interviews with the public school teachers, supervisors, and principals, and professors of education at some of the New York State Teachers Colleges. Other services were noted in the literature, and where they were found to be pertinent to the study, they were incorporated.

The study was limited to the eleven New York State Teachers Colleges and to 225 central schools in New York State. Questionnaires were mailed to this group, and returns were received from all of the teachers colleges and from 184, or 81.77%, of the public schools. The first series of tables presented the data from the study as a whole while the second series of tables presented the data by each teachers college service area.

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Conclusions

Since the teachers colleges and the public schools gave a high percentage of agreement to the services or relationships which the teachers colleges and the public schools should offer, it can be concluded that:

1. There are services which the teachers colleges have a responsibility to provide to the public schools.

2. There are services which the public schools have a responsibility to offer to the teachers colleges.

Seventy-five per cent, or more, of the teachers colleges noted they were offering the following services:

1. Attend area administrators meetings and have an active alumni association to improve area relations.

2. Provide consultant service for public schools through workshops and for special subject matter fields.

3. Provide extension classes off-campus for graduate and undergraduate study.

4. Provide teacher placement service.

5. Use their campus schools for demonstrations.

Seventy-five per cent, or more, of the teachers colleges revealed that they were offering, or were not offering but should offer the following services:

1. Study the districts in the area to interpret them to the college classes as an aid in improving area relations.

2. Provide consultant service for public schools through: curriculum studies, administrative studies, and system wide surveys.

3. Issue publications relative to: curriculum, trends in education, supervision, administration, and special fields.

4. Provide clinical services such as: speech, psychological testing, reading, hearing, and language.

Seventy-five per cent, or more, of the public schools noted that they were offering, or were not offering but should offer the following services:

1. Provide consultant services for the teachers colleges through: workshops, curriculum studies, audio-visual needs, and library needs.

2. Issue publications relative to: curriculum changes, financial studies, and drop-out studies.

3. Use their schools for laboratory situations.

Seventy-five per cent, or more, of the teachers colleges and the public schools noted that they were offering, or were not offering but should offer the following services:

1. Aid recruitment of able high school students.

2. Interpret education to the public.

3. Engage in intervisitation between the public schools and the teachers colleges.